(e) whether the said policy has been criticized by the Centre for Science and Environment and if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The fifth meeting of the National Water Resources Council (NWRC), wherein the Chief Ministers of all the States and Union Territories are members, was held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister on 1st April, 2002 to consider the draft revised National Water Policy. During the discussions, State Governments suggested certain modifications in the provisions of the Draft National Water Policy. In light of these suggestions, the Revised National Water Policy, with certain modifications, was adopted and a Resolution to this effect was unanimously passed by the Council. The policy, *inter alia*, envisages that each State should formulate its own State Water Policy backed with an operational action plan in a time bound manner within a period of two years and implement the same in order to achieve the desired objectives as laid down in the policy.

(e) Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), which is a Non-Governmental Organisation, has not conveyed their views on the Revised National Water Policy to the Ministry of Water Resources.

Setting up of Mahakali River Commission

4371. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to set up a Joint Committee with Nepal to look into the technical aspect of Lotan Rasiyawal Bund to check floods in UP through rivers originating from Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A joint committee has been constituted to undertake joint survey to establish the fact on the ground and work out agreed proposals so as to mitigate adverse effects of inundation on the lives and livelihood of people on either side of the border.